DOD PAM 1-10/DA PAM 355-106/NAVPERS 92483/AFP 34-10-10/NAVMC 1154

CODE

OF THE U. S. FIGHTING MAN

EXECUTIVE ORDER 10631

CODE OF CONDUCT

FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, I hereby prescribe the Code of Conduct for members of the Armed Forces of the United States which is attached to this order and hereby made a part thereof.

Every member of the Armed Forces of the United States is expected to measure up to the standards embodied in this Code of Conduct while he is in combat or in captivity. To ensure achievement of these standards, each member of the Armed Forces liable to capture shall be provided with specific training and instruction designed to better equip him to counter and withstand all enemy efforts against him, and shall be fully instructed as to the behavior and obligations expected of him during combat or captivity.

The Secretary of Defense (and the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to the Coast Guard except when it is serving as part of the Navy) shall take such action as is deemed necessary to implement this order and to disseminate and make the said Code known to all members of the Armed Forces of the United States.

THE WHITE HOUSE
August 17, 1955

Dwight D. Eisenhower

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office
Washington 25, D. C. - Price 10 cents

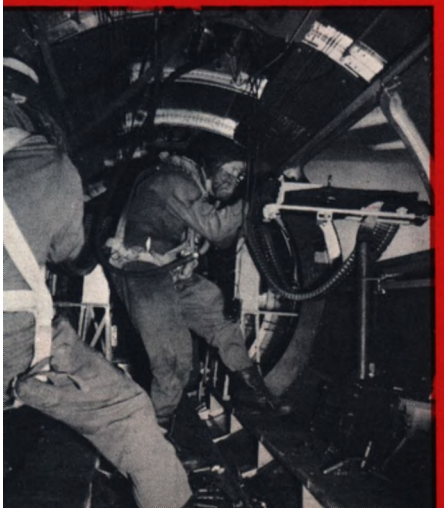
As a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, you live by a Code of Conduct that grew out of the heroic lives of American fighting men.

Portrayed in this booklet are some of America's heroes whose ideals and deeds helped shape the Code.

CODE 1 OF CONDUCT

I am an American
fighting man. I serve
in the forces which
guard my country and
our way of life.
I am prepared
to give my life
in their defense.

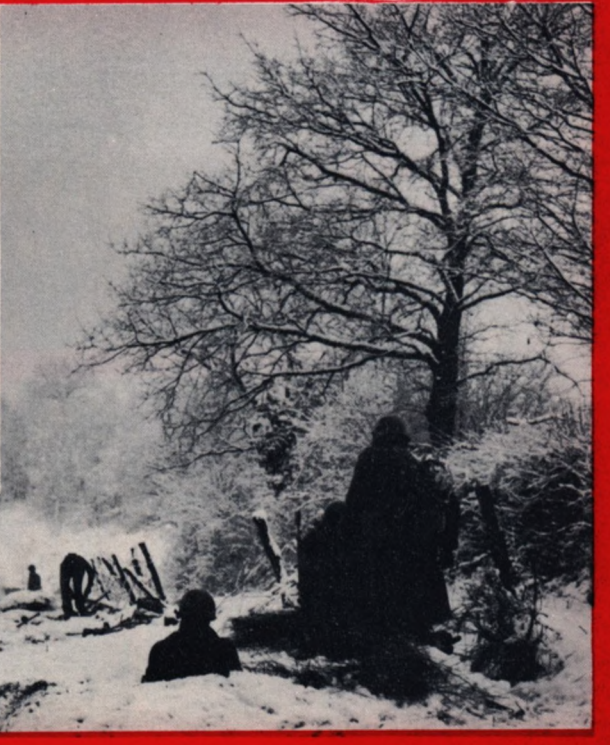
Capt. Nathan Hale voiced Code's spirit: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country;" Admiral Farragut its determination: "Damn the torpedoes! Go ahead!" Airmen in World War II, Marines in Korea lived it.



CODE 2 OF CONDUCT

I will never surrender
of my own free
will. If in command
I will never
surrender my men
while they still
have the means
to resist.

Lt. Gen. Patton decorates Brig. Gen. McAuliffe for action during the siege of Bastogne in 1944.



Dying Lawrence's "Don't give up the ship" in 1813, McAuliffe's "Nuts" at Bastogne—meant no surrender.

CODE 3 OF CONDUCT

If I am captured I will continue to resist by all means available. I will make every effort to escape and aid others to escape. I will accept neither parole nor special favors from the enemy.

In 1842 these captured Texans evaded their guards and escaped from the Castle of Perote in Mexico.

Cdr. M. H. McCoy, USN

Capt. A. C. Shofner, USMC

Lt. S. C. Grashio, USAF

A century later the Americans at right, and others, escaped from the Bataan death march (top) and led guerrillas (bottom) until Philippines were retaken.

CODE 4 OF CONDUCT

If I become a prisoner of war, I will keep faith with my fellow prisoners. I will give no information nor take part in any action which might be harmful to my comrades. If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those appointed over me and will back them up in every way.

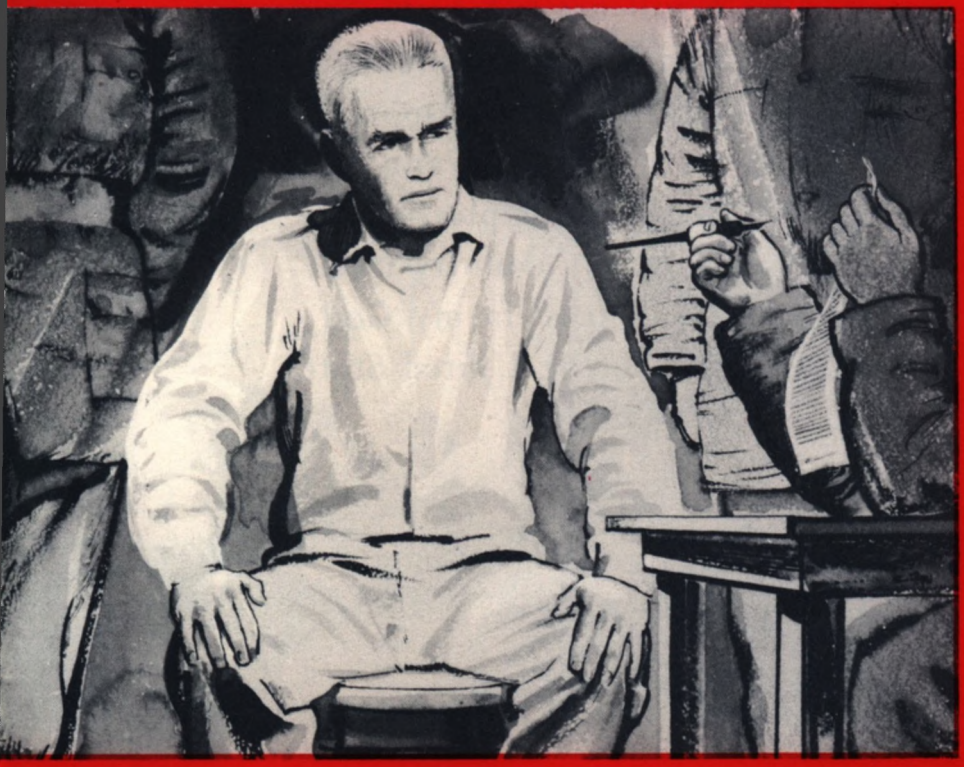
General Wainwright, facing his captors after Corregidor, did his best to protect the men who had fought with him.

Injured, Lt. Melvin Shadduck, USAF, nursed his fellow prisoners in Korea. Escaping, he sent tanks to rescue.

CODE 5 OF CONDUCT

When questioned, should
I become a prisoner of war,
I am bound to give only name,
rank, service number, and
date of birth. I will evade
answering further questions
to the utmost of my ability.
I will make no oral or written
statements disloyal to my
country and its allies or
harmful to their cause.

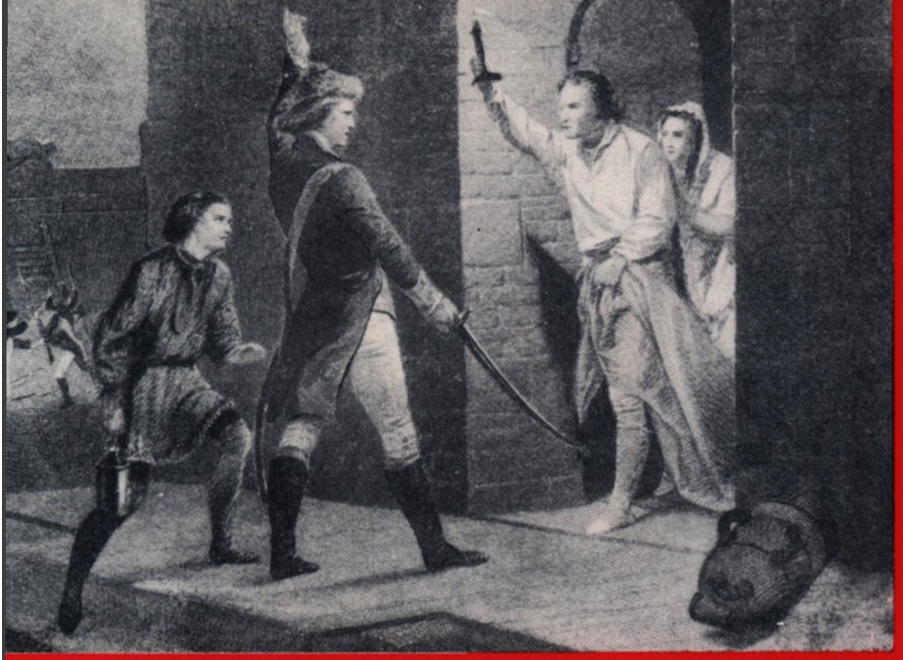
In Korea, Capt. T. R. Harris, USAF, resisted repatriation because his name had been placed on a faked confession of germ warfare. He said: "If I can't go back with my self-respect, I won't go back at all."



General Dean, captured in Korea, showed iron courage in resisting interrogators who sought to break him.

CODE 6 OF CONDUCT

I will never forget
that I am an American
fighting man, responsible
for my actions, and dedicated
to the principles which
made my country free.
I will trust in my God
and in the United States
of America.



"In name of God and Continental Congress," Ethan Allen demanded surrender of Ft. Ticonderoga. Coast Guardsmen entrusted their fate to God on eve of Iwo Jima landing.

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON

23 September 1957

This official Department of Defense publication is for the use of personnel in the Military Services.

C. E. Wilson

DOD PAM 1-10/DA PAM 355-106/NAVPERS 92483/AFP 34-10-10/NAVMC 1154 is published for the use of all concerned.
[AG 250.1 (27 Jun 57)]

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE ARMY, THE NAVY, THE AIR FORCE, AND THE TREASURY:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:
HERBERT M. JONES
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.

J. L. HOLLOWAY, Jr.,
Vice Admiral, United States Navy,
Chief of Naval Personnel.

OFFICIAL:
G. L. RUSSELL,
Vice Admiral, United States Navy,
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Administration).

THOMAS. D. WHITE
Chief of Staff, United States Air Force.

OFFICIAL:
J. L. TARR,
Colonel, United States Air Force,
Air Adjutant General.

R. McC. PATE,
General, U. S. Marine Corps,
Commandant of the Marine Corps.

OFFICIAL:
ROBT. E. HOGABOOM
Major General, U. S. Marine Corps,
Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans).

ALFRED C. RICHMOND
Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard.

OFFICIAL:
WILLIAM W. KENNER,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard,
Chief, Office of Personnel.

Distribution:

Army:

Active Army:

1 Copy per each Officer, Warrant Officer and Enlisted man on Active Duty. NG and USAR: Div; Brig; Regt/Gp; Bn; Co/Btry. For explanation of abbreviations used, see AR 320-50.

Air Force:

Ten (10) times distribution X to Sections C-1, C-3, F, G, L, O and T; Twenty (20) copies to each address on Sections C-2, C-4, and U; Five (5) copies to each address on Section E; Two (2) copies to each address on Section N; One (1) copy to each address on Sections A and B.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1957—O-435809